

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

USPS-01 USSS-00 COME-00 /035 W

-----001437 201300Z /53

R 200613Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 989

UNCLAS HONG KONG 7808

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, HK, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR US POSTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS AGAINST  
FRAUDULENT USE OF MAILS

1. POST HAS RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR (A) COPY OF US LAW(S) PROHIBITING USE OF US MAILS FOR FRAUDULENT SOLICITATIONS DIRECTED AT RECIPIENTS OUTSIDE OF US AND (B) GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE LAW(A) INCLUDING (C) THE KINDS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF USG LEGAL ACTIONS AGAINST PERSONS OR ORGANIZATIONS MAILING SPURIOUS INVOICES OR OTHER FRAUDULENT SOLICITING MATERIAL FROM US TO FOREIGN ADDRESSEES.

2. CHAMBER EXPLAINS THAT IT OFTEN RECEIVES COMPLAINTS FROM OVERSEAS INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS ON INVOICES OR OTHER CLAIMS FOR PAYMENTS MAILED TO THEM BY HONG KONG FIRMS FOR LISTINGS OR ADVERTISEMENTS IN TRADE DIRECTORIES THAT ARE EITHER NON-EXISTENT OR IN PLANNING STAGES THAT SELDOM REACH PUBLICATION. THE "RACKET" APPARENTLY PAYS OFF BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS WHO ASSUME THE INVOICES ARE BONA-FIDE AND ROUTINELY PAY THEM. CHAMBER SAYS IT IS REQUESTING INFORMATION (FROM US AND PRESUMABLY VARIOUS CONSULATES IN HONG KONG) ON MEASURES OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE AGAINST SUCH MALPRACTICE FOR USE IN ITS ONGOING DISCUSSIONS  
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WITH THE HKG LOOKING TOWARD TOUGHER LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS AGAINST LOCAL OFFENDERS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. DEPARTMENT PLEASE COLLECT AVAILABLE MATERIAL PER PARA 1 AND AIRPOUCH TO CONGEN HONG KONG ATTENTION MCCA HILL.  
SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014